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THE  
FIFTH ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE  
HOUSE OF REFUGE

OF  
PHILADELPHIA.

WITH  
AN APPENDIX.

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PHILADELPHIA:  
WILLIAM BROWN, PRINTER.

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1833.

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*To the Contributors to the House of Refuge, the Managers respectfully submit the following report :*

IN coming before the contributors and the community with their annual report, the President and Managers of the House of Refuge have the satisfaction to say, that the institution continues to fulfil the benevolent purposes for which it was established, to an extent quite commensurate with their reasonable expectations. From the opening of the House to the present time, there have been received 538 of both sexes; that is to say, of males 391, and of females 147. Of this number, 190 have been bound out to some respectable occupation.—158 have been discharged; 23\* absented themselves from the institution.—3 have died, and 164 remain at present in the House.

During the year just ended, there have been admitted 123; to wit, males, 82; females, 41;—there have been bound out, 72; discharged, 34; absented themselves, 4; and 164 remain in the House. Of those bound out, the accounts have in general been very favourable. Some of the numerous letters received will be found in the appendix, and will be read with great interest. Upon this point, the Managers have always bestowed the most anxious attention, endeavouring, in the first place, to procure suitable places for those who were prepared for binding out, and, in the next, to keep open a communication through which they might be informed of the conduct and habits of the youth thus provided for, as well as be assured that justice was done them by their employers. They have endeavoured in this way to acquit themselves of their trust, by leading on

\* The escapes were chiefly before the buildings were completed.



the children committed to their care, until they reach the period of life when, under Providence, they must take charge of themselves, and be fully responsible for their own acts and omissions. We are all well aware, however, of the vast importance of the condition in which they are found at the moment when they are launched upon the tempestuous ocean of the world. A thoughtful parent, with all the means that wealth and position can give him, still looks with deep solicitude to this stage in his offspring's career, and trembles at the suggestion that his hand can no longer control for protection and guidance. The hope he has—so far as merely human calculation is concerned—rests upon the past—upon the care that has been applied to form a healthy moral constitution, capable of resisting the assaults of temptation, and strong enough to keep the line of rectitude through the stormy and disturbing influences by which we are continually assailed. What, then, is to be expected from the manhood of one, whose walk, almost from his cradle, has not only been neglected, but has been continually in company with unproved vice? The case is often even worse than this. Crime is positively taught and encouraged, and the child receives no other counsel or advice than what is necessary to produce hardihood and dexterity in criminal achievement. If, in his progress to a highly accomplished depravity, the unhappy pupil is thrown into a prison, it is only to be hurried forward in vicious attainment, with an accelerated rapidity. A day in the company of hardened offenders, such as he will meet with there, may do the work of months, in teaching him the various arts which a bad experience has discovered for the commission of crime, and infusing a feeling of admiration and respect for the lawless address and courage employed in its perpetration. The boasted heroism of wicked audacity is looked at, without perceiving its deep shade of infamy, until it becomes abso-

lutely attractive, and the feeble child is won by the meretricious lustre of the serpent's eye, unconscious that he is to be folded at last in the embraces of a filthy and insatiable reptile.

That society has an interest in the preservation of the young, is too plain to require to be urged upon an intelligent people. That there is a duty of humanity connected with this interest, every one is ready to admit. In every community that has any claim to civilized character, there are institutions of some kind for the support of indigent and destitute children, that they may not perish for want. When unusual calamity suddenly enlarges the number of the helpless, charity multiplies and adapts her means of relief, as we saw an asylum rise up during the last summer, for the reception of the orphans whom pestilence had deprived of their parents, and the offices of humanity associated in their performance with all that is beautiful in female sensibility and grace.

But it had long escaped observation, that while thus providing as was fit for the claims of extreme infancy, there was a period of life in which guidance and support were also wanted, and that instead of making provision to afford them, the institutions of society were positively tending to aid the work of destruction. As a consequence, juvenile offenders were increasing at a rate that was truly appalling; and it was the consideration of this important fact, which directed attention to the peculiar claims of this description of our fellow-creatures, and to the treatment suited to their conditions. They are offenders—but they are youthful offenders. They are less accountable, from the weakness of their understanding. They are more reclaimable, because they are yet in a state to receive impression, and to be fashioned according to the example and the counsels presented



to them. If it be true, on the one hand, that, left to the influence of bad association, co-operating with their own headlong passions, they will grow into the stature of hardened profligacy, ruinous to themselves, and dangerous to society, so, on the other, it is certainly true that, with proper culture and discipline, they *may* be formed into industrious and useful citizens. The distinction here adverted to, is founded in nature, is supported by experience, and has the express sanction of the Scriptures of truth. Among adults, even those who are the subjects of criminal infliction, there are degrees of wickedness, undoubtedly, one surpassing or falling short of another in the extent of his profligacy. But, in general, they may be considered as having one characteristic, which marks them as a class, separated from the rest of society, and at war with its peace and welfare. It is the *habit* of doing wrong, more or less confirmed, but sufficiently fixed to have become as it were a part of their nature, and to require to be eradicated before any hope can be entertained of their improvement. In them, it is strictly a work of reformation. It is the recovery of those who are lost, which is sought after, in all the humane and benevolent exertions that are made to better their condition. And certainly, such exertions are in the highest degree praiseworthy, and though they may encounter many difficulties and discouragements, ought never to be abandoned. To endeavour to engraft upon the system of punishments required for the security of society, an abiding and operative recollection, that the unhappy subject is still related to us as a fellow-creature, and as such entitled to some portion of regard, is one of the plainest suggestions of humanity, though, practically, long unheeded. The time has been—nor is it yet beyond the memory even of the living—when a culprit, of whatever grade, seemed only to be an object of fierce re-

sentment, against whom were let loose the vindictive passions of mankind, to be indulged by the infliction of unmitigated shame and suffering, without any concern as to the consequences to the prisoner. A better philosophy, under the influence of Christian charity, has succeeded, and the management of prisons, the treatment of prisoners, and the obligations of benevolence which are due to them notwithstanding their follies and their crimes, are deemed worthy of continued and earnest attention. It is, indeed, among the highest honours of Pennsylvania to have led the way in this career. It is also very honourable, that she still perseveres in her efforts, adopting every suggestion which experience or just deliberation seems to sanction, and clinging to the hope that improved methods will at last succeed in making a penitentiary a place of purification, where evil habits may be broken, and proneness to crime give place to an honest and virtuous disposition. That these her efforts may be crowned with success, is the anxious desire of every philanthropist.

Juvenile delinquents, it must be obvious, and especially those of comparatively tender age, cannot, in general, be said to have acquired *habits* of crime. They are in the way to acquire them. Their first offences are to be considered as evidence that they have yielded to temptation, have been led astray by bad example or by evil counsel, or have wandered from the right path because they were not steadied and directed by the support and guidance which a child always needs. They are evidence, too, that such offenders are without the aid of suitable control from parents or friends, and exposed to the mischiefs of bad association and pernicious example, and that, finally, if not arrested in their course, habits will be formed, and fastened upon them by the time they arrive at manhood, which will be sure to sub-



ject them to the experiment of the Penitentiary, and to burthen society, first with their depredations, and then with the expensive and uncertain process of their correction and reformation. The natural remedy would seem to be a plain one, sanctioned no less by a wise policy, than by considerate benevolence. Their destitution at an age when the institutions of every civilized community admit that they stand in need of direction and control, and the evidence from their misconduct that this destitution is incompatible with their own welfare and the welfare of others, brings them under the power of society, whose right it is, for its own security, as well as for theirs, to assume their guardianship, when they have no other, and rescue them from the dangers so manifestly incident to their condition. The object is not to punish, but to save.

Nothing can be more desirable than that this subject should be calmly, but carefully and accurately, considered in all its bearings, and that the principles upon which the Refuge is founded should be thoroughly and universally understood. We are persuaded that nothing more is necessary to give it a firm establishment in public opinion, and remove whatever prejudices may remain. Under this persuasion, we are induced here to make a remark, tending to confirm the distinction already adverted to, and to point out more strongly the peculiar character of the House of Refuge. The confinement of an adult in a prison for an offence committed is always attended with reproach. It fixes a stigma upon his character, sufficient in general to exclude him from honest association and employment. Who will receive into his service, or his company, a man that issues from the Penitentiary, with the stains of the prison upon him? The children from the Refuge are not thus marked. They are bound out from the House, without difficulty, to respectable



masters, who receive them into their service in honest occupations, and place them upon a footing with their other apprentices. And this they do, with a full knowledge that they are from the Refuge, for the fact is apparent upon the indentures themselves, and is the very ground of the binding. They hold the apprentice under a binding by the House of Refuge.

It is true that in the exercise of their power of binding, the Managers always act under a sense of conscientious obligation to the persons they contract with, and do not bind out an inmate till they feel reasonably assured, from his conduct and improvement under their care, that he is in a fit state to be received by a master. If (as sometimes happens,) they find that a boy is incorrigibly vicious, they do not bind him out. The value of any assurance the Managers are thus able to give, must be founded, it will at once be perceived, upon the belief, that the original commitment is no conclusive proof of bad character, and that careful training in the House, has had the effect of producing a visible change of deportment, which may be relied upon to continue, if he be properly governed in his new employment. Let the same hypothesis be applied to adults in a prison—that is to say, that their deportment in prison has been satisfactory to those set over them. What would be the value of such an assurance, in the estimation of those who might be asked to employ them?

This, then, is the natural judgment of mankind upon the subject. However the reasons of it may be analyzed, the result will still be the same, that is to say, a tacit but universal confession that there is an essential difference in the cases, so great as to lead to conclusions directly opposite, and to place the infant object of confinement and care, upon a totally distinct footing from the adult criminal, who has

suffered the penalty of imprisonment for offence. We should be inattentive to the teachings of nature, if we did not understand the lesson thus conveyed. It plainly tells us, that the Refuge is not a prison—is not, properly speaking, a place of punishment, nor its administration in any sense vindictive. The purpose of the establishment is essentially parental; and though it employs coercion and restraint, irksome it may be to the inmates, and against their will, it does so for their own benefit, not in a measure proportioned to their offences, or graduated by the degree of criminality, as a punishment, but to an extent adapted to their exigencies, and sufficient to save them from destruction. It finds the fulfilment of its whole design, in seeking to prepare them for a manhood of industry and usefulness, with which there shall never be associated any recollection of having suffered a penalty for crime, or endured the shame and contamination of a prison.

As a place of confinement, the Refuge affords to society all the security which confinement alone can give. It is not to be denied, that where a capability of doing mischief has been manifested, together with a propensity to exert it, restraint is indispensable, whatever may be the age of the person in whom it is disclosed. Society must be protected from depredation. Until this establishment was formed, protection was afforded (if at all,) by commitment to prison. Confinement in the Refuge, it must be admitted, is equally effectual for the purpose of present security. There is no difficulty, indeed, in proving that it is much more effectual. Every one who is conversant with criminal proceedings, is aware of the difficulty that is experienced in executing the laws against juvenile offenders. The natural repugnance that is felt to their imprisonment, resists a prosecution at every step. The injured party refuses to prosecute—witnesses hold back—the magistrate endeavours to avoid commit-



ment—and when, at last, these difficulties being overcome, the case is brought to trial, judges, jurors, and bystanders are affected by sympathy for the accused, and concur in seeking for him the means of escape. It thus happens, that of the many who offend, few are subjected to punishment. They are suffered to run at large, with an assurance of impunity which cooperates powerfully with other causes to urge them on in a career of crime, until at length their audacious and repeated misconduct becomes too offensive to be endured. Against the Refuge, no such repugnance is felt, because its character is entirely different from that of a prison, and, therefore, there is no hesitation in taking measures against youthful delinquents, because it is known that they will there be in safety, and treated as the general sense of mankind agrees that they ought to be.

The greater efficacy thus given to the administration of the laws, is but a small item, however, in the aggregate of advantages which the establishment is capable of conferring upon society. A prison makes a deep and dark stain upon those who enter its doors as criminals. They seem to be marked by it as a degraded caste, separated from the honest portion of the community, and condemned to the association and pursuits of the unworthy. They feel themselves to be so degraded, and as a consequence become desperate and hardened, preying upon others with increased wickedness, until they are again arrested and committed. Their way of life becomes measurably determined, and their lot is with the miserable outcasts whose reprobate character is summed up in the denomination of convicts. It may be that there are some exceptions. It is to be hoped that under an improved system of prison discipline, they will be more numerous. But, in general, the case is such as has now been stated.

A residence in prison, besides the shame and reproach it fastens upon its tenants, is very well calculated to quicken the growth of vicious propensity. Among the abandoned occupants who are there collected, and each of whom has earned his title to reside, by the commission of crime, it is not at all extraordinary that so great a perversion of reason should occur, as actually to place the point of honour upon superior boldness and address in criminal enterprise. A school of vicious instruction is thus formed, the pupils in which, especially those of tender age, are sure to come out worse than they went in. They become the most dangerous offenders, costly from their depredations when at large, and costly for their support when they are confined.

From this root of wide spreading mischief, also, the Refuge is free. The inmates of the establishment are not associated with experienced and aged offenders, nor placed in the way to receive vicious instruction. On the contrary, every care is taken to cultivate their morals and train them into habits of honest industry, and, if possible, to efface every bad impression that may have been made upon them before they came into the House. The contrast, in this respect, is a decided one.

Looking only to the welfare of society, without regarding the welfare of the inmates, it will thus occur to every one who will bestow a single moment's reflection upon the subject, that the public security is promoted to the whole extent of the supply of matured and formidable offenders which the establishment of the Refuge proposes to cut off. But if we add to this a reasonable consideration of the duty that is owing to the children of poverty on their own account—of the more than probability that some, nay, that many, by the application of judicious care, at a moderate expense, may be saved from a life of infamy, terminating most commonly in premature



death—may be instructed in the truths which concern their temporal and eternal happiness—may be formed into habits of honest industry, and qualified to become useful and respectable citizens, instead of being a burthen and a curse to themselves and to others—surely it cannot be a question in a civilized and Christian community, whether such an institution ought to be maintained.

By the law for incorporating the House of Refuge, the age of twenty-one for males and eighteen for females, is fixed upon as the limit of those who are to be received into the House. In proportion as those who are committed approach that age, the hope of an improvement in their character is diminished, and the disposition of them after they leave the House placed beyond the Managers. Full scope for the principles of the establishment to operate, is afforded only when the age of the inmate allows a sufficient time for applying the discipline and instruction of the House, and afterwards for binding out. The latter, indeed, cannot be conscientiously and safely attempted, until the Managers are fully satisfied that the inmate is in a fit state to be put out, and then, no master will take him unless there be time enough left before coming of age (the utmost time for which he can be bound,) to afford a remuneration for the unrequited expenses of the early portion of apprenticeship. It happens, too, in most instances, that persons approaching the designated age have acquired bad habits, and at the same time a maturity of strength and growth which render them difficult to manage, and unfit companions for the younger inmates. The Managers think it very desirable that these things should be borne in mind by magistrates and others who have power to commit, and that none should be sent to the Refuge, who have attained an age and growth which forbid the hope of bringing them beneficially under the influence of its disci-

pline. They injure the younger inmates, and disturb materially the order of the establishment.

In the investigations to which the duties of the Managers have necessarily invited their attention, they have learned that a new source of juvenile corruption has been opened in this city, which deserves to be noticed. They allude to what for want of a more appropriate phrase may be called children's theatres. As they have understood, the actors and the audience are minors of both sexes, though it is supposed that the whole is under the direction and for the benefit of adults. They are established in obscure places, the price of admission is low, and there is unlimited license in them for every sort of vicious indulgence. They are visited by stealth, and the money paid for admission must be known by those who receive it, to have been very often dishonestly acquired, as the visitors are of an age and a class not to have money of their own. There can be no doubt that such establishments are common nuisances, obnoxious to prosecution and punishment, and that it is in the power of the law, as it is manifestly for the interest of the public, to break them up. This notice, it is hoped, will be sufficient to engage the attention of those to whom it especially belongs to guard the public peace and safety, and to apprize them of the existence of an evil of which they may not have been heretofore informed.

The accounts herewith, will show the amount expended during the year. Employment is necessary for the sake of those under their charge, that they may acquire habits of industry, and avoid the evils of idleness; but considering their age, their want of skill, and that by the time they are so advanced as to be able to afford some remuneration, it becomes proper to bind them out, no calculation ought to be indulged that they will contribute any very considerable



amount towards their own support. The Managers, however, use every effort to render their labour productive. The elder boys are now employed in shoemaking, bookbinding, brass nail making, manufacturing cane seats for chairs and furniture for umbrellas—the younger ones in winding bobbin. The hours of the girls, not spent in school, are fully occupied in making, mending, and washing for the House.

In the expenditures of the establishment, there has been the strictest attention to economy. The cost of maintaining it, must be considered with reference to the purposes to be accomplished, which do not admit of comparison with any other institution. If the benevolent objects contemplated be worthy of public support, (of which there is now no doubt,) the Managers hope and believe that the needful means will be supplied, and that nothing more will be required than a continuance of the same watchful fidelity in their administration.

In their efforts to improve the morals of the inmates, and to prepare them for a life of virtue, the Managers continue to receive the benevolent and efficient aid of the “Ladies Committee.” They make a weekly visit to the House, and with that delicate and correct perception, combined with considerate kindness, which distinguishes their sex, suggest and promote arrangements, especially in the female department, conducive to the great purposes of the institution, as well as bestow their time and personal exertions in observing and assisting the progress of their good work.

The Sabbath day is not allowed to pass without its appropriate improvement. There is religious service in the morning and in the afternoon, conducted by clergymen of the different denominations, who in turn occupy the desk in the chapel, and kindly extend the benefit of their sacred embassy to those whose only claim is their need. The Sun-

day schools are gratuitously superintended by a gentleman of decided ability, by whom they have been reorganized and materially improved. Under his direction they appear to be producing the best fruits. The deportment of the inmates of both sexes, in the church, and in the schools, is such as to justify a belief that the efforts generously made in their behalf by their instructors, are not without a blessing.

The physicians of the House are entitled to the acknowledgments of the contributors and the Managers, for the promptness and zeal they have uniformly manifested, even when extraordinary claims have been made on their time and attention. Happily, the epidemic cholera did not enter the House. Not a single case appeared within the walls. But during a part of the season, slighter affections prevailed, of a kindred nature, and, subsequently, there were cases of scarlet fever, which, however, did not in any instance prove fatal. The general good habits and cleanliness which have prevailed, have been conducive to health.

The Managers have been entirely satisfied with the Superintendent and Matron in their respective departments. In the school, a change has taken place. Mr. John O. Taylor resigned his situation, as teacher, in July last, and Mr. Edmund Neville was appointed to succeed him. His conduct in that capacity has been very satisfactory. The Managers think they perceive in it, evidence of more than ordinary qualifications for the employment. The average time spent by the inmates in school may be stated at four hours a day.

By order of the Board,

JOHN SERGEANT, *President.*

Attested—JAMES J. BARCLAY, *Secretary H. R.*

PHILADELPHIA, May 1, 1833.



Dr.

The House of Refuge in account current with Thomas Earp, Treasurer.

Cr.

To cash paid orders drawn by Executive Committee, from					
1st May, 1832, to May 3, 1833,	\$14,172 54	By balance on hand 1st May, 1832,	-	165 24	
do. Commissions for collecting,	24 75	cash received for labour of boys,	-	2,893 88	
do. W. M. Camac, for ground rent,	40 00	do. sundry subscriptions and donations,	-	351 75	
do. for Taxes, &c.	26 49	do. from A. Benson & Co. for money loaned them,	-	4,200 00	
do. Conrad Keller, for two years annuity,	200 00	do. for rent, scaffold poles, &c.	-	363 14	
do. interest on money borrowed,	1,286 67	do. interest,	-	129 61	
do. Commercial Bank,	9,000 00	do. borrowed of the Commercial Bank,	-	9,000 00	
do. to Alexander Benson & Co. on interest,	2,000 00	do. received for the Governor's warrant on the	-		
Balance in hand,	453 17	State Treasurer, and the County Commis-	-		
		sioners' draft on the County Treasurer, \$5000	-		
		each, for legislative appropriation for 1833,	-	10,000 00	
		Received advance money from Committee on supplies,	-	100 00	
				\$27,203 62	
	\$27,203 62	By balance,	-	453 17	

THOMAS EARP, Treasurer.

Having examined the preceding account, and compared the charges with the vouchers, we find a balance in favour of the Refuge, of four hundred and fifty-three dollars seventeen cents.

THOS P. COPE, } Committee.  
ELIJAH DALLETT, }

May 3, 1833.

## APPENDIX.

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*Annual Report of the Ladies' Committee of the House of Refuge,  
April 26th, 1833.*

The Ladies' Committee have the pleasure of presenting their annual report of the Female Department of the House.

The same good order, neatness, and discipline still prevail among its inmates. The cooking, washing and sewing for the whole institution, are done by the girls, and in this way they are taught to become useful to themselves, or in families, when they leave the House.

Their improvement in school during the past year has been greater, we believe, than it has been since the House was founded. The girls recite their Bible lessons to the Committee, and in the Sunday School, and discover a growing knowledge of, and interest in, the Holy Scriptures. We can say, we trust with confidence, that many instances of reformation have occurred, and those too, in the most hopeless cases. We have reason to rejoice that such happy results take place; it compensates for past exertions, while it animates to future effort.

This department of the House is certainly increasing in interest; the behaviour of the girls generally is more correct, their manners are more modest, and their hearts and minds apparently more under the influence of religious and moral principle. That this improvement may result in entire reformation is most desirable, and may well engage the prayers and labours of such as feel interested for the outcast and the orphan.

REBECCA SIMMONS,  
*Directress.*

ELIZABETH BOYD,  
*Secretary to the Committee.*



## REPORT OF THE SUPERINTENDENT.

*To the Board of Managers of the House of Refuge, the following report is respectfully submitted.*

Number of inmates remaining in the House of Refuge on the 1st of May, 1832.

Boys,	-	-	-	-	-	-	112
Girls,	-	-	-	-	-	-	39
							<hr/>
							151

Admitted from first of May, 1832, to 1st of May 1833.

Boys,*	-	-	-	-	-	-	82
Girls,	-	-	-	-	-	-	41
							<hr/>
							123

Those received during the year, were born in the following states and countries, viz:—

	Boys.	Girls.
Pennsylvania,	52	23
Delaware,	2	3
New Jersey,	3	2
New York,	2	0
Maryland,	2	0
North Carolina,	0	1
Ireland,	8	4
Germany,	1	1
Scotland,	1	0
England,	4	2
Prussia,	1	0
Uncertain,	6	5

Discharged from 1st of May, 1832, to 1st of May, 1833.

	Boys.	Girls.
By indenture,	62	10
As improper subjects,	5	6
As of age,	4	6
Returned to their friends,	10	2
Escaped,	4	0
Sent to Almshouse,	0	1
		<hr/>
		85
		<hr/>
Remaining on the 1st of May, 1833,	109	55

\* Three had been returned to their friends, and were re-committed—one had been indentured, and was re-committed—two had been indentured, and returned voluntarily—and one who had been discharged as an improper subject, was re-committed.

Received from Centre county,	-	-	2
Northampton county,	-	-	1
Philadelphia county,	-	-	120
			<hr/>
			123

The boys have been indentured to the following trades—

Shoemakers,	4	Printers,	2
Farmers,	18	Blacksmiths,	2
House Carpenters,	3	Black and Whitesmiths,	1
Seamen,	12	Engraver,	1
Glass Blower,	1	Harness Maker,	1
Tailors,	2	Woollen Manufacturer,	1
Paper Maker,	1	Brass Founder,	1
Baker,	1	Miller,	1
Cabinet Makers,	5	Brick Makers,	2
Storekeepers,	2	Stone Mason,	1

Girls to Housewifery, . . . . . 10

The whole number of subjects received since the opening of the institution, is—Boys, 291. Girls, 147.

Discharged since the opening of the Institution—

	Boys.	Girls.	Total.
By indenture, . . . . .	157	33	190
As improper subjects, . . . . .	17	17	34
Of age, . . . . .	22	33	55
Returned to their friends, . . . . .	51	8	59
Sent to the Almshouse, . . . . .	6	1	7
Sent to Children's Asylum, . . . . .	2	0	2
Returned to New York Refuge, from } which he had escaped,	1	0	1
Escaped,* . . . . .	23	0	23
Died, . . . . .	3	0	3
Remaining in the Institution, . . . . .	109	55	164
			<hr/>
			391    147    538

Of those who have been indentured,

	Boys.	Girls.
Favourable accounts have been received of	106	12
Unfavourable, . . . . .	1	2
No certain information, (but believed to be } doing well,) from . . . . .	16	3
		<hr/>
Carried over,	123	17

\* The escapes were chiefly before the buildings were completed.



	Boys.	Girls.
Brought forward,	123	17
Left their places, and since in prison, . . .	2	0
Served his time faithfully, and since in prison,	1	0
Served their time faithfully, and since have conducted improperly, . . . . . }	1	1
Served her time faithfully, and since married respectably, and doing well, . . . . . }	0	1
Served out their time faithfully, and now doing well, . . . . . }	0	7
Left their places by persuasion of their con- nexions, one of which is believed to be doing well,* . . . . . }	2	0
Left their places and took money from their masters, . . . . . }	3	0
Guilty of, stealing, and absconded, . . . . .	2	0
Left a whaling ship, and enlisted on board a U. S. armed ship, . . . . . }	1	0
Indentured without the usual reference to re- formation, for particular reasons, . . . . . }	2	0
Left their places, and nothing certain now known of them, . . . . . }	20	4
Left her place, and since dead, . . . . .	0	1
_____ and now doing well, . . . . .	0	1
_____ and not doing well, . . . . .	0	1
	<hr/> 157	<hr/> 33

The boys are employed in the manufacture of brass nails, umbrella furniture, cane chair bottoms, bonnet cane, boots and shoes, and at binding books, and winding bobbins. The girls do the tailoring, sewing, mending, washing, cooking, &c.

*Work done by Boys.*

Brass nails made, . . . . .	21,800,000
Testaments bound, . . . . .	126
School Bibles bound, . . . . .	1,183
do. folded, . . . . .	3,977
Sunday School Questions bound, . . . . .	15,053
do folded and collated, . . . . .	4,464
English Readers folded and collated, . . . . .	1,000
Spelling Books sewed, . . . . .	7,308
do. bound, . . . . .	54,272
Coarse shoes made, (pair,) . . . . .	619

\* It is believed that several have been induced to leave their places by persuasion of their friends, but it has not been positively ascertained.

Coarse brogans, (pair,) . . . . .	139
Boots made, do. . . . .	33
footed, do. . . . .	12
Men's fine shoes made, (pair) . . . . .	45
Women's Shoes, do. . . . .	61
Children's, do. . . . .	58
Fine boots fitted, do. . . . .	369
Coarse do. do. do. . . . .	529
Brogans fitted, do. . . . .	901
Shoes, . . . . .	681
Cane seats for chairs and stools made, . . . . .	1,020
Bonnet cane, (gross,) . . . . .	2,100
Caps and ferrules, slides, tips, &c. for umbrellas, (doz.) . . . . .	400
Cotton yarn wound, (skeins,) . . . . .	181,293

*Work done by the Girls.*

Shirts made, . . . . .	394
Pantaloons, . . . . .	543
Roundabout jackets, . . . . .	436
Frocks, . . . . .	68
Petticoats and other articles of clothing, . . . . .	142
Aprons, . . . . .	107
Capes, 35—Bombazet capes for winter, 50, . . . . .	85
Stockings knit, . . . . .	61
Shoes bound, (pair,) . . . . .	60
Quilts made and quilted, . . . . .	10
Carpet rags, cut and sewed, (lbs.) . . . . .	104
Night caps, . . . . .	22
Sheets, . . . . .	29
Pillow cases, . . . . .	59
Pillow ticks, . . . . .	22
Handkerchiefs hemmed, . . . . .	25
Brown towels, . . . . .	37
Diaper towels, . . . . .	19
Bed ticks, . . . . .	43
Comfortables, . . . . .	2
Pieces washed weekly, about . . . . .	1400

All which is respectfully submitted,

EDWIN YOUNG,

*Philadelphia, May 1, 1833.*

*Superintendent.*



## REPORT OF THE TEACHER.

The Male School consists of 109 pupils, of whom about 50 have been taught to write, and thirty to read during the last 9 months. The classification and course of study, are as follows:—

CLASS.	NO. OF BOYS.	STUDIES.
1	16	Spell in two syllables.
2	6	do. three do.
3	25	Read and spell in Webster's spelling book.
4	11	Read in Testament, and use Webster.
5	16	do. do. do.
6	5	do. in Conversation on the Wonders of Nature and Art, and use the Primary Dictionary.
7	8	do. in Weems' Franklin and use the Expositor.
8	7	Study Geography, History, and Expositor.
9	15	Geography, History, Composition & Grammar.
109		

Thirty can write on paper, and fifty on slates. Twenty-eight can work examples from Simple Proportion, to Arithmetical Progression, and forty are in the elementary rules of Arithmetic.

The Female School consists of fifty-four girls, who are classed as follows:—

CLASS.	NO. OF GIRLS.	STUDIES.
1	6	Spell in one syllable.
2	4	do. two do.
3	6	Read in Primary Lessons, and Webster's spelling book.
4	8	Read in Jack Halyard, and Webster's do.
5	8	do. Testament, and Webster's spelling book.
6	5	do. Grimshaw's U. States, and Primary Dictionary.
7	6	Read in National Reader, and do. do.
8	11	Geography, History, and English Grammar.
54		

It appears to me very proper that some mention should be here made of the plan of instruction and discipline pursued in



these schools, especially as a parent who has a child in this Institution may have found it impossible to induce his attendance on a teacher, or to engage his attention to study whilst with them, and may thence conclude that great severity is requisite to attain the last of these points, when the very reverse is the case.

I consider that the proportion of natural talent to be found here, greatly exceeds that generally to be met with in an equal number of children in the public schools; because, perhaps, the most active minds misdirected, will drink deepest of the stream of vice; at the same time, however, if such activity can be turned into proper channels, what splendid results may not be anticipated! And that it can be so turned, experience teaches us, provided the subjects have not come to us after their teens have been nearly passed in the debasing school of dissipation, and when all the finer feelings of man have been blunted by indulgence of the grossest passions of human nature.

My first object is the supply of motive to exertion, with a view of exciting a healthy action. Among other means proper for this end, biographical notices of men who have flashed meteor-like, from obscurity, at once entertain and stimulate; this last effect, however, is not uniform in its action, prompting some minds to great exertion and perseverance—in others, producing the first result only, which soon exhausts itself, and leaving a third class unaffected, except perhaps by a stupid wonder.

To direct the studies of these youths in such a way as judiciously to guide the first, give firmness to the second, and encouragement to the third, is my next object; and short and easy lessons, exactly adapted to the proficiency attained, renewed, and repeated until they are familiar and fixed in the mind, together with a gradual and cautious progress, that “never leaves an unconquered enemy in the rear,” are powerful means of attaining it, as the industrious waste no labour upon what as yet is beyond their grasp. The sanguine are never discouraged by finding themselves unequal to their task, and the diffident obtain confidence in their own capacities. The boy who for a certain period has held the first place in his class, is entitled to try to stand his ground in a higher one. Pupils are encouraged to correct the mistakes of each other, and the rank attained by each boy daily in his class, is entered in a register, which at once shows the relative industry of the scholars, “directs the labour of all to distinction, and converts the school-room into a sort of literary play ground.” Another



and not the least important result of this system, is “the contest for superiority in literary acquisition is so incessant, and the rivalry and competition of the scholars so fully directed to their exercises,” that corporeal punishment for neglect of study is almost unknown.

Considering education as a moralizing agent, the preference must be given to that system which best teaches the proper application of the powers of the mind; and upon this principle, our inmates are taught to think upon and to explain as far as they can what they read. If, for instance, history has been read to-day, the pupil is required some time afterwards to give the spirit of that reading in his own diction, and when that is done, every word affords some field for remark, and every sentence gives the teacher an opportunity of putting questions to be answered by the ingenuity, and in the language of his pupils.

I have great pleasure in stating that I have seen surprisingly good results from this system, and were the facilities for pursuing it to its utmost extent, greater, the ratio in which this department might advance the object of the Institution would be much increased.

Our children in general have either been without the opportunity of education before coming here, or have neglected such advantage; and besides this, their residence in the Institution is seldom for a very long period, hence my report does not show that any are advanced beyond the mere elements of knowledge. What is learnt, however, is learnt well, and tends, I hope to improve the moral character, and may in some cases excite boys of talent, steadily to pursue the cultivation of their minds—may excite in them the noble ambition of using their abilities at some future period for the good of their fellow-creatures, and to the glory of their God.

E. NEVILLE,  
*Teacher.*

## OFFICERS AND MANAGERS FOR 1833-'34

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### *President.*

JOHN SERGEANT.

### *Vice-Presidents.*

ALEXANDER HENRY,                      THOMAS ASTLEY.

### *Treasurer.*

THOMAS EARP.

### *Secretary.*

JAMES J. BARCLAY.

### *Managers.*

Charles Bird,  
Isaac Collins,  
Thomas P. Cope,  
Israel Cope,  
Elijah Dallett,  
Nathan Dunn,  
Thomas Fassitt,  
John U. Fraley,  
Philip Garrett,  
John Goodman,  
Peter Hay,  
John S. Henry,  
Joseph R. Ingersoll,

Joseph L. Inglis,  
William H. Keating,  
Jacob Lex,  
William M. Meredith,  
John Rakestraw,  
Thomas Rogers,  
Samuel Sellers,  
Silas W. Sexton,  
Alexander Symington,  
Henry Troth,  
George M. Wharton,  
Henry J. Williams,  
Thomas Zell.

### *Indenturing Committee.*

Isaac Collins,  
Thomas Earp,  
Thomas Fassitt,

Thomas Rogers,  
Henry Troth.



*Physicians.*

Caspar Morris, M. D.

Wilson Jewell, M. D.

John Marshall Paul, M. D.

Thomas F. Ash, M. D.

*Superintendent.*

Edwin Young.

*Assistant Superintendent.*

Henry Taylor.

*Teacher*

Edmund Neville.

*Matron.*

Catharine Sherlock.

*Assistant Matron.*

Mary Weaver.

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**LADIES' COMMITTEE.**Mrs. Rebecca Simmons, *Directress.*Elizabeth Pearsall, *Treasurer.*Elizabeth Boyd, *Secretary.*

Mrs. Susanna B. Shober,  
 Hannah Paleske,  
 Rachel Blanding,  
 Cornelia Cooper,  
 Ann Worrell,

Mrs. Robert Piggott,  
 Rebecca Guest,  
 Miss Deborah Howell,  
 Elizabeth Hood.

## CASES.

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O——E——, aged 18 years, was received September 16th, 1829. He was the only son of very respectable parents. His father had been dead several years. As is too often the case, he had been too much indulged by his mother, until he became his own master. He was placed as an apprentice in the city, but proved to be uncommonly obstinate, impertinent and disobedient, so much so, that his master found it necessary to punish him with severity very often, but without producing any reformation. Having become intimate with some boys of the worst character, with whom he visited houses of ill fame, &c. he finally left his master and his house, and gave himself up to the worst associations. His mother having considered him as almost entirely lost, as a last resort, requested his master to procure his committal to the Refuge. For some months after his reception here, he was very obstinate and troublesome, even positively refusing in presence of the other inmates, to obey the officers of the institution. He was compelled, however, to submit, and soon afterwards began to improve in his general deportment, and we were finally enabled to say that he was the *best* boy in the Refuge. He was placed as an apprentice at some distance from the city, in May, 1830. He has since been remarkable for his industry and attention to the interests of his employer, his quiet and amiable deportment, his correct habits, his entire neglect of his former associates, and particularly for his partiality to the officers and managers of this institution. Having had a tolerable education, he is now able to gain admittance into respectable society, and in his general deportment is very exemplary.

Jan. 6, 1833.

E. Young, Esq.—Yours of the 20th, did not come to hand until the first of January. It afforded me considerable satisfaction to hear from all of my kind friends at the institution. I shall ever feel grateful to you for the kindness you have always shown towards me, and the interest you have ever taken in my welfare. It occasioned me pain to hear of my cousin's being placed in that institution. It was no more than I had anticipated. I had been expecting it sooner, he was of a discontented disposition; his friends have done the best for him



they could. While I was an inmate of that institution, I wrote to him; he was then at Boarding School, I warned him of the consequences that would follow, if he did not check that disposition in the bud, before it began to expand.

For proof, I referred him to myself for an example. I wished him to trace the course I had pursued, and see what I had gained by not taking my friends' advice in the first place. I was deprived of my father, he was also; we were then at more liberty to use our own judgment. Dear sir, you know a mother cannot enforce that strict obedience that a father can. They generally feel more willing to hide our little faults than to expose them. Their finer feelings seem to overbalance their better judgment, and when the youth finds no restraint to his ambitious views, he rushes on, and still proceeds in his head long course, until he finds himself on the brink of destruction, and still he will not let his better judgment prevail. And still he cannot form that resolution within himself to retrace his steps, ready every moment to plunge into destruction, and perhaps some kind hand is at last reached out to rescue him from an awful eternity. Time alone will remove the disgrace we have brought upon ourselves, and the sorrow and affliction we have occasioned our families.

Please give my respects to those gentlemen who compose the Board of Managers, and tell them that they receive the thanks of a poor youth, who will ever feel deeply indebted to them for snatching him from ruin and disgrace. Hoping they may receive a full equivalent for the united exertions they have made in raising such an institution for so noble a purpose. In reclaiming youth from infamy and disgrace, and making them fit members for society, may all their exertions be crowned with success, and their expectations be more than realized.

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A—— E——, aged 13 years, was received October 26, 1829. He was born in Ireland, and brought to this city, where his parents now live, when he was very small. He early became accustomed to run about the streets, pilferring, begging, &c., until he was so much from home that his father was induced to procure his committal to the Refuge.

He has now been an apprentice more than two years, and has been several times represented by his master as one of the best boys he has ever had, and has become a member of the Baptist Church.



A—— A——, aged about 15 years, was received August 25th, 1830. He was born in Pennsylvania. His father and mother were both dead. He lived several years with a farmer, but ran away and came to the city, and after wandering about sometime, found a butcher who was willing to take him, but he proved dishonest, and after being suspected and finally detected in stealing some change, he left this place, and wandered about the city about three weeks, sleeping sometimes in the open air, sometimes in new buildings, in stables, &c.—sometimes begging, and sometimes stealing, until he was taken up by a watchman, and committed to the Refuge by a magistrate as a vagrant.

He was bound from the Refuge to a store kepeer in the country, and has now been employed as a clerk about eighteen months. He is believed to be honest and trustworthy, and is a very great favourite of his employer.

Many cases similar to the foregoing can be mentioned, but the simple statement that they were neglected by their parents, or by those who should have taken care of them, that they were in the habit of profane swearing, lying, stealing, and associating with the most worthless of society, who were giving them daily lessons in the arts of vice—that they have been subjects of this institution, and that they are now placed beyond the influence of their vicious associates, and are in a way to become useful and respectable members of society, comprises the history of many who have been so unfortunate as to need, and so fortunate as to receive the benefits of this institution.

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H—— C——, aged 15 years the 22d of September, 1828, was received March 12, 1829, was born in New Jersey. His father is dead, his mother is living.

He was bound to a farmer in New Jersey, lived with him about three or four years, and ran away. He was afterwards twice bound in and near the city, but absconded at the expiration of a few weeks.

The following statement was made by himself. He commenced stealing when he was about eight years old. The first thing he recollects to have stolen was a bag of marbles from a shop window. While living in New Jersey, he stole a penknife, and small sums of money at two or three different times. After his return to the city, he stole small sums of money, apples, and other fruit, chickens, butter, eggs, &c. whenever opportunities presented. He took 150 dollars from a countryman, who was at the time intoxicated and asleep in



his wagon in Market street, near Second, a part of which he divided among his companions. He took \$4 50 in change from a labouring man, \$5 from a shoemaker, and twelve artificial flowers in Fourth street. For the last he was sent to Arch street prison, where he was kept three months and discharged without a trial. He was sent from prison to the Alms-house, and bound from the Alms-house to Mr. H——, in the city, but soon ran away. He stole a fowling piece and a pair of pistols from a pawnbroker's shop in Third street, which he sold for \$1 25; five dollars from an Aunt, 20 dollars from a huckster, and other things of small value, which he could not enumerate. He took \$10 25 in cash from J. S. for which he was convicted and sent to Prune street prison for one year. When discharged from prison, he was at his own request, committed to the Refuge by the Mayor.

He left the institution in September, 1829, and sailed from Nantucket on a whaling voyage. He returned in 1831, having been absent about 19 months, was well clothed, and had about 90 dollars in cash. He has since frequently visited the Refuge, is always well clothed, looks well, and we have received very favourable accounts of him from various sources. When last heard from he was at sea.

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O—— O——, aged 13 years, was received March 28, 1829. He was born in Ireland, and had been in Philadelphia about 5 years. His father has been dead some years, and his mother again married. He lived with his step-father, but was generally his own master. He commenced stealing by taking small sums in change, from his two aunts. He once took five dollars from the brother of a man with whom he lived a short time. He was frequently engaged with some other boys, in stealing iron, gig boxes, brass cocks, &c. which finally brought him to the Refuge.

He was bound in September, 1830, to a mechanic in the country. Our last account from his master was only a few weeks since, and of the most favourable kind, after he had been an apprentice more than three years.

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H—— B——, aged 14 years, was received August 15, 1829. His father is dead, his mother is living. He was placed by his mother in a respectable situation, but he was found to be so dishonest, that his employers were compelled to part with him. He states that he began to steal in January, 1829, by taking 50 cents from the drawer of his employers.



He next took one dollar from the same place, and continued to take money in the same manner about seven months, generally in small sums, but sometimes five dollars at a time. He expended the money thus procured at the circus and theatres, and for ice cream, nuts, cakes, &c. His depredations were finally discovered by his employers, and being under the necessity of parting with him, they procured his admission into this institution.

He was bound to a mechanic in the interior of the state, in October, 1830, and his master speaks of him in the most favourable terms. We often hear from him, and are assured that he uniformly conducts himself to the entire satisfaction of his master.

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N. R. aged 14 years the 25th day of November last, came to the Refuge the 29th day of December, 1828. She was born in Philadelphia; her mother died about four years since, of mental derangement. N. R. went about six months previous to her mother's death to live in ——— where she remained about two years. After her return from ——— she lived with Mr. ——— about fifteen or sixteen months. Her conduct was so bad, that he could keep her no longer. She has lived at nine other places, all of which, according to her statement she left because she was badly used; but she now thinks that she herself was most to blame. While living at Mr. ———'s she was in the practice of keeping part of the money with which she was sent to market, and dividing it with the hired girl; she acknowledges that she has long been in the practice of taking change and other small articles. She was sent to the Refuge, in consequence of the ill treatment she had received from her father, and her consequent exposure to ruin. She together with her brothers and sisters were taken to different parts of the city by her father, who pointed them to different articles, in stores and on wharves, and commanded them to steal them, and when they were unsuccessful, he punished them.

This girl's conduct at the time she was received at the Refuge, was such, as to confirm us in the opinion, that she had made a correct statement of her past life, for it appeared to us that she had such a propensity for *stealing*, that she would take every thing that she could lay her hands on, and appropriate to her use, and was frequently detected in secreting things that she could not make any use of. She was greatly addicted to telling falsehoods, and of a violent temper. For



a length of time we had little or no hope in her case, but by the constant moral and religious instruction which she received, and the steady uniform discipline of the House, she at length began to yield, saw her errors acknowledged her faults, and by slow degrees fully overcome the propensity to stealing, and for many months previous to her leaving the House, we believed her strictly honest.

She was indentured, served out her time *satisfactorily*, and made us a visit, after which she returned to the country, and is now living as a domestic in a pious family.

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M. V. aged fifteen years, was born in Philadelphia. Her mother died when she was four years old. Her father died in the autumn of 1825, when the Guardians of the Poor bound her to Mr. — of this city, from whom she stole an article of some value, and was detected by her master, and having been in the habit of associating with improper companions, it was thought advisable by Mr. — on consulting his friends, to have her committed to the Refuge. She was accordingly committed on the charge of larceny by Alderman —, on the 8th of May 1830.

This girl was rather thoughtless and wild when she came to the House, but her general conduct was such as to satisfy us that she only wanted our moral discipline, and the right course pointed out to her, in order for her to pursue it. Consequently she was indentured in a few months at a distance in the country; at the expiration of her time, her master employed her in his family, and she still continues to live in the country, has become pious, and united herself with the Rev. Mr. —'s church.

*April 3, 1833.*

My dear Mrs. Sherlock and Miss Weaver—I take this opportunity of writing to you to let you know that I am well, and I hope that these few lines will find you the same. I hope that you have not forgotten me entirely; I am very sorry that I have not written before, as I have left Mr. —'s. I have gone about a mile and half distance, and I thank you all very kindly, that you placed me in such circumstances, which has proved my everlasting good. I hope, that by the grace of God, that he has changed my heart, and that he has caused me to leave off all my worldly pleasure, and that I have given my life entirely to God, and as I am left without father or mother, but I have taken him for a father and a friend, as I



have joined the church of Rev. ———, and it was last January that I first became serious; it has been three weeks since I made my eternal peace with God; and I give best love to Mr. and Mrs. Young, and to all the girls, and to Mary Christy. I have need to thank God that he has placed me in such a family, as they are all very good to me, and the man's name is ——— that I live with now. Mrs. ——— wishes to know whether you have a girl for her, as her coloured girl is a going to leave in the course of two or three weeks, and she would like to know; and I also thank God that I have been in good health.

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L. A. between eight and nine years old was born in Albany, in the state of New York, of Irish parents, who are living, but have separated from one another. Her father follows peddling, her mother lives in the city of New York. L. A. has lived in Mr. ———'s family, from whom she confessed that she stole a breast pin, and also a brass plate worth four dollars. These articles she says she gave away; she also took a prayer book, and sold it to a bookseller in Dock street, for twelve and a half cents. She says that she used to run about the streets a great deal, when sent on errands and to school; she was committed on the charge of larceny. She could not read.

When L. came to the house, she was a very troublesome child. She was artful and sly, and showed the greatest degree of cunning and deception, of any child of her years that ever entered the house, and for more than a year, there was very little improvement visible, except in school learning, in which she made very rapid progress. She possessed an active mind, and a strength of memory not common in a child of her years, but finally the discipline of the house had its desired effect, and she became obedient, honest, industrious and remarkably fond of reading, particularly the Bible,\* of which she committed large portions to memory weekly and recited to the Ladies' Committee.

A suitable place offered, and she was indentured in the country to Mr. ———, who writes that the family are well pleased with her.

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A. M. aged about 17 years, was received, Nov. 14th, 1831. She was born in Ireland. She does not know whether her

\* She says that she does not recollect to have seen a Bible till she came to the Refuge.



father is living or not; her mother lives in Pittsburg. A. has lived about five years with Mr. — in Frankford. She was bound to him by the guardians of the poor. She in one instance took from her master five or six pounds of pork, and gave to a woman in the neighbourhood. She also several times took sugar and wine and gave to the two boys who were her master's apprentices. She has been at school and can read and write. Her father was intemperate. A.'s conduct while in the house was uniformly good. A few weeks after she was here, she was discovered one evening, weeping, when she was interrogated to know the cause, she said that "she was sorry that she had been such a wicked girl," and when we asked her what produced those feelings, she said it was hearing the Bible read, attending family prayers, and the religious instruction that she heard, "all these things (she said) were entirely new to her"—for she had never lived in a religious family before. On having pointed out the great atonement made by Jesus Christ, as the only sacrifice for her sins, she betook herself to a life of prayer, and searching the scriptures daily, and it might well be said that the bible was her constant companion while she remained in the house, and she used her influence with the rest of the girls to induce them to lead religious lives, and judging from letters received from some of the children, who reside in the same neighbourhood that she does, it appears she still continues to use it for their benefit. She was very much attached to her caretakers, and appeared very grateful for the kindness and instruction bestowed upon her by the Ladies' Committee. As her time was so short, she was not indentured, but when she became of age, a suitable place was procured in the country, where in a few months after, she joined the Methodist Episcopal Church.

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L. O. aged fourteen years, came to the Refuge, March 24, 1829. She was born in Philadelphia; her father has been dead about eight years. She does not know whether her mother is living or not, has not seen her during the last eight years. She had one brother, but does not know where he is. She was an inmate of the Orphan Asylum, from which place she was bound to Mr. — of this city, when she was about six years old. She states that she was beaten by Mrs. — with a cowskin and broomhandle for going out in the evening in consequence of which she says she left Mr. —, and



in her friendless condition, became acquainted and associated with females of bad reputation. She went to a house of ill fame, from whence she was sent to the Alms House, by one of the Guardians of the Poor, from which place she was sent to the Refuge.

This girl's conduct while in the house, gave the matron better reason to hope in her case than in many others of the same class. She became willing, obedient, industrious, and so much attached to Mrs. Sherlock and Miss Weaver, that it was with difficulty we could persuade her to be indentured, and when she consented, she appeared deeply concerned who should take her place, to perform the work assigned to her, lest they should not do it well, and give the matrons trouble. On leaving, she said, "I will never cause you to be ashamed of my conduct." Thus far she has kept her word. She served out her time *faithfully*, has been free nearly two years, and still continues to reside in the same neighbourhood in the country, and commands high wages and good places. She has visited us twice, was remarkably neat in her appearance, modest and unassuming in her manners. She calls the House of Refuge her home, and always speaks affectionately of the Ladies' Committee, and expresses her gratification that the managers established so good an institution for poor friendless girls like herself.

Discharged, Sept. 12, 1831.

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A. R. aged fourteen years, was born in Philadelphia. Her parents are both dead. She has a step-mother, who lives in the lower part of the city, and keeps a house of ill fame. She has several sisters living in the city, who are very respectable and pious. A. was bound to Mr. — of this city, with whom she lived about nine months, and absconded six times, in consequence of the persuasion of the step-mother, with whom she would live when absent from her master. Her sisters seeing the danger to which she was exposed, had her sent to the House of Refuge, on the 15th day of September, 1829, on the charge of being an idle disorderly person. She could read a little, but could not write.

When A. was committed to the house, she was a heedless idle girl, and very much addicted to falsehoods; after remaining in the house for a few months, there appeared evident signs of improvement, and as soon as we thought her a proper girl to be indentured, a suitable place offered; but at the solicitation of her friends she was retained in the house, till she became



of age; at the expiration of which time they took her under their care. For several months previous to her leaving the house, she manifested a strict regard for truth, was attentive, industrious, modest in her deportment, and often expressed a determination to lead a religious life, and a few weeks after her leaving the house, she joined the Presbyterian church in this city, of which her friends are members.

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## EXTRACTS FROM LETTERS.

*Fourth mo. 5th, 1833.*

It is with pleasure I can inform of Charles' industrious attention and progress in farming in the course of the last year, and his common moral conduct; he has united himself to a Bible Class, and also to a Temperance Society, both of which I have encouraged him in, hoping that it may excite an emulation to push forward in well doing in other respects. His attention to meetings of worship are tolerable, but his attention to reading and writing on First Days, he is too negligent of. He has not been to school this last winter, however, I am yet ahead of my obligation in that part of my duty towards him.

It is a gratification to me, that Charles obtained some insight of basket making in the House of Refuge, at which business he could now nearly obtain a living, and with a few weeks practice under the care of a proficient, I think it likely he would become a tolerable workman. To enable him to retain the art, I have encouraged him at leisure times and long evening to make baskets, dividing the proceeds between us.

I will just remind thee of the proposal of selecting a lad for me, say towards the latter end of next month; when such a choice is made, please to write me, to save expense of travelling and disappointment.

Admitted, July 24th, 1829—Indentured, March 6, 1830.

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*March 26, 1833.*

I was duly favoured with yours of the 12th, making the usual annual questions in relation to the boys—in answer to which, I have pleasure in saying, that their general conduct is satisfactory, so much so, that I shall deem it unfair to them to report any petty exceptions.



*March 18th, 1833.*

The conduct of William since he has been with me, has been such, thus far, as to give me great satisfaction. I have trusted him with a full proportion of my business, and as far as I know, his honesty and veracity are not to be doubted. He has been, and I have no doubt will continue to be, very attentive and obliging in every respect. His habits are good, and his proficiency in his business very rapid. He has never absented himself from my house, either day or night, unless upon business for me. He frequently attends church, and although not inclined to be religious, has always been and still is morally disposed.

Admitted, September 19th, 1831—Indentured, Oct. 1832.

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*March 24th, 1833.*

The conduct of George since placed under my care, has been tolerably good; he has been industrious and obedient, and generally speaks the truth; he is honest and contented. He has come on as well as I could expect in his employment; but he progresses but slowly at his studies at school. He attends places of worship, but does not become very religious.

Admitted, Aug. 11, 1829—Indentured, May 9, 1831.

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*4th mo. 12th, 1833.*

The general deportment of William and Emanuel has been such, the past year as regards their veracity, honesty, industry, obedience, &c. that I have nothing particularly to object against, particularly Emanuel. William I think is not so governable or industrious. And E.'s improvement in business corresponds proportionably with his attention, over the other. William does not direct his attention closely enough, to make much improvement, which of course has been moderate. I believe they are both as trusty as common for boys of their age, &c. They are not as careful to improve themselves in school learning, as I could wish; more fond of other exercise than reading, &c. when at leisure. They go pretty regularly with me to meeting, and appear to conduct themselves in a becoming manner therein. Though no particular marks of a serious disposition to become religious are manifest in either.

William admitted, September 10, 1830—Indentured, Sept. 9, 1831.

Emanuel admitted, December 1st, 1829—Indentured, September 9, 1831.



*March 26th, 1833.*

It is with satisfaction I can state that Alexander is a good boy; in his general conduct he is very attentive to learn whatever he has to do. He has made considerable progress in his learning; he has been to school the best part of the winter. Our opportunities for worship are few, but when there is a meeting he attends it, but for seriousness he is like other boys in the country. He is very contented, and I believe he would not wish to change his situation. He says he can now enjoy the fruits of the season more than can be in the city, and he thinks if the boys in the city knew the comforts of a country life, he is sure they would be glad to embrace an opportunity to enjoy it.

Admitted, March 15, 1830—Indentured, Nov. 2, 1831.

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*March 25th, 1833.*

Peter has conducted himself to my satisfaction since he has been with me. For his honesty, industry, and obedience, I have no reason to find much fault. He appears to have a disposition to be industrious and saving. By his attention and industry, he has become a passable workman for a boy of his practice. Respecting his schooling, he has not been sent to school any yet, but he has improved himself by reading and studying at home. I intend sending him to school this spring.

Admitted, May 7th, 1831—Indentured, June 4, 1832.

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*March 25th, 1833.*

James' general habits, industry, honesty, &c., are all good. He has been going to school through the winter, and has made tolerable proficiency. He attends in the store regularly, and attends Sabbath School and preaching on every occasion that offers.

Admitted, Aug. 25, 1830—Indentured Nov. 7, 1831.

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*April 6th, 1833.*

Alexander is strictly honest, obedient, and industrious. He has made some proficiency in his employment; has improved considerably at school in learning. I cant say that he has evinced a disposition to become religious, neither does he attend public worship often.

Admitted, Oct. 1, 1829—Indentured, April 20, 1831.

*March 20th, 1833.*

I can state that the conduct of Nancy since she was apprenticed to me, especially as regards her veracity, honesty, industry, obedience, and general habits, has been as good as to be expected from one, who until she obtained the benefit of your Refuge, had no opportunity of knowing any thing but what was pernicious.

She makes tolerable proficiency in her employment, and tolerable improvement in school learning. She has one half quarter more of schooling already than mentioned in the indenture, and must have more. She does regularly attend a place of worship, the Presbyterian church, and also Sunday school, but she has not evinced any disposition to become pious. As to her person and dress, she is particular about her person, and fond of good and gay clothing.

Admitted, October 21, 1829—Indentured, April 22, 1830.

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*March 25th, 1833.*

I am pleased with the conduct of Mary. She is useful in my family; she shows aptness in learning, spells in words of three syllables, and can read a little in short words; attends Sabbath school, and at preaching and prayer-meeting with my family, as we can spare her, and I think I may say is reared in the nurture and admonition of the Lord.

Admitted, Jan. 9th, 1831—Indentured, Dec. 16, 1831.

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